

Message Text

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PAGE 01 HONG K 00829 171126Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 IO-13 /060 W
-----029601 171356Z /44

R 170817Z JAN 78
FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8614
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L HONG KONG0829

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: XGDS-4
TAGS: SREF, OGEN, PDIP, SPOP, VM, UK, HK
SUBJ: FOREIGN MISSIONS' EXPERIENCES WITH FAMILY REUNION
CASES IN THE SRV

REF: A) VIENTIANE 50 B) 1977 HONG KONG 15673 (NOTAL)

1. CONGEN WOULD LIKE TO CLARIFY SOME MINOR POINTS IN THE
VERY COMPREHENSIVE AND INFORMATIVE REPORT CONTAINED IN REFTEL
(A).

2. WITH REFERENCE TO THE INFORMATION PROVIDED IN PARA 8 OF
REFTEL (A), CATTHAY PACIFIC EVACUATION FLIGHTS CARRIED 3443HK
RESIDENTS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS IN THE PERIOD ENDING DEC. 31,
1977. (REFTEL B). ON JAN 12 AN ADDITIONAL 168 ARRIVED AND HONG KONG
IMMIGRATION EXPECTS ANOTHER 600 TO BE TAKEN OUT
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BEFORE THE PROGRAM ENDS.

3. ALTHOUGH THE THIRD COUNTRY NATIONAL REPRESENTING
BRITISH INTERESTS IN SAIGON PERFORMS MANY OF THE FUNCTIONS
OF AN HONORARY BRITISH CONSUL, HE HAS NO OFFICIAL STATUS
AND IS NOT ACCREDITED TO THE SRV. THE VIETNAMESE HAVE
TRIED TO AVOID GIVING OFFICIAL DIPLOMATIC STATUS TO PERSONS

IN SAIGON SINCE BOTH THE SOVIETS AND THE CHINESE WOULD
USE THIS TO JUSTIFY THEIR OWN CONSULAR PRESENCE IN THE
SOUTH. (IN THIS REGARD THE FRENCH PRESENCE IN SAIGON
UNDOUBTEDLY CAUSES THE VIETNAMESE CONSIDERABLE PROBLEMS.)

4. WHILE IT IS TRUE THAT HONG KONG GOVERNMENT DID NOT
WISH TO HAVE TAIWAN PASSPORT HOLDERS LEAVE SAIGON ON THE
CATHAY PACIFIC FLIGHTS, IT IS THE ROC WHICH IS RESPONSIBLE
FOR THIS PROBLEM. A TAIWAN PASSPORT HOLDER CANNOT ENTER
TAIWAN WITHOUT A TAIWAN ENTRY VISA. IF THE ROC WERE TO ISSUE
VISAS TO THE HOLDERS OF TAIWAN PASSPORTS IN SAIGON, THESE
PEOPLE COULD DEPART VIETNAM VIA BANGKOK ON THE ICRC
FLIGHTS JUST AS A LIMITED FEW WHO OBTAINED SUCH VISAS
HAVE DONE ALREADY. HONG KONG, WITH ITS SENSITIVE RELATION-
SHIP WITH THE PRC, UNDERSTANDABLY DOES NOT WANT TO GET
INVOLVED.
SHOESMITH

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NNN

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Concepts: REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT
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Draft Date: 17 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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TAGS: SREF, OGEN, PDIP, SPOP, VM, UK, HK
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